

Notice of Allowability

Application No.

10/758,785

Examiner

Thanh-Tam T. Le

Applicant(s)

BISCHOFF ET AL.

Art Unit

2839

-- The MAILING DATE of this communication appears on the cover sheet with the correspondence address--

All claims being allowable, PROSECUTION ON THE MERITS IS (OR REMAINS) CLOSED in this application. If not included herewith (or previously mailed), a Notice of Allowance (PTOL-85) or other appropriate communication will be mailed in due course. **THIS NOTICE OF ALLOWABILITY IS NOT A GRANT OF PATENT RIGHTS.** This application is subject to withdrawal from issue at the initiative of the Office or upon petition by the applicant. See 37 CFR 1.313 and MPEP 1308.

1. ☒ This communication is responsive to 9/30/04.
2. ☒ The allowed claim(s) is/are 1-22.
3. ☒ The drawings filed on 16 January 2004 are accepted by the Examiner.
4. ☒ Acknowledgment is made of a claim for foreign priority under 35 U.S.C. § 119(a)-(d) or (f).
 - a) ☒ All b) ☐ Some* c) ☐ None of the:
 1. ☒ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received.
 2. ☐ Certified copies of the priority documents have been received in Application No. _____.
 3. ☐ Copies of the certified copies of the priority documents have been received in this national stage application from the International Bureau (PCT Rule 17.2(a)).
 - * Certified copies not received: _____.

Applicant has THREE MONTHS FROM THE "MAILING DATE" of this communication to file a reply complying with the requirements noted below. Failure to timely comply will result in ABANDONMENT of this application.
THIS THREE-MONTH PERIOD IS NOT EXTENDABLE.

5. ☐ A SUBSTITUTE OATH OR DECLARATION must be submitted. Note the attached EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT or NOTICE OF INFORMAL PATENT APPLICATION (PTO-152) which gives reason(s) why the oath or declaration is deficient.
6. ☐ CORRECTED DRAWINGS (as "replacement sheets") must be submitted.
 - (a) ☐ including changes required by the Notice of Draftsperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948) attached
 - 1) ☐ hereto or 2) ☐ to Paper No./Mail Date _____.
 - (b) ☐ including changes required by the attached Examiner's Amendment / Comment or in the Office action of Paper No./Mail Date _____.

Identifying indicia such as the application number (see 37 CFR 1.84(c)) should be written on the drawings in the front (not the back) of each sheet. Replacement sheet(s) should be labeled as such in the header according to 37 CFR 1.121(d).
7. ☐ DEPOSIT OF and/or INFORMATION about the deposit of BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL must be submitted. Note the attached Examiner's comment regarding REQUIREMENT FOR THE DEPOSIT OF BIOLOGICAL MATERIAL.

Attachment(s)

1. ☒ Notice of References Cited (PTO-892)
2. ☐ Notice of Draftperson's Patent Drawing Review (PTO-948)
3. ☒ Information Disclosure Statements (PTO-1449 or PTO/SB/08),
Paper No./Mail Date 1/16/04 & 8/5/04
4. ☐ Examiner's Comment Regarding Requirement for Deposit
of Biological Material
5. ☐ Notice of Informal Patent Application (PTO-152)
6. ☒ Interview Summary (PTO-413),
Paper No./Mail Date _____.
7. ☒ Examiner's Amendment/Comment
8. ☒ Examiner's Statement of Reasons for Allowance
9. ☐ Other _____.

EXAMINER'S AMENDMENT

1. An examiner's amendment to the record appears below. Should the changes and/or additions be unacceptable to applicant, an amendment may be filed as provided by 37 CFR 1.312. To ensure consideration of such an amendment, it **MUST** be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee.

2. Authorization for this examiner's amendment was given in a telephone interview with Steven Bach on 9/30/04 (Reg. No. 46,530).

3. The application has been amended as follows:

Claim 1, line 6, "the contact tube length" has been changed to -- a length of the contact tube --;

lines 7 and 8, "the contact tube circumference" has been changed to -- a circumference of the contact tube --;

line 16, "whereby" has been changed to -- wherein --;

line 18, "15" has been removed;

Claim 3, line 6, "the center" has been changed to -- a center --;

lines 7 and 8, "the longitudinal axis" has been changed to -- a longitudinal axis --;

Claim 4, lines 1 and 2, "the region" has been changed to -- the free-standing end region --;

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Claim 5, line 3, "the axial direction" has been changed to -- an axial direction --;

line 9, "the first" has been changed to -- a first --;

line 12, "a contact pin" has been changed to -- the contact pin --;

line 14, "a first contact" has been changed to -- the first contact --;

Claim 7, lines 4 and 5, "the mating end" has been changed to -- a mating end --;

Claim 15, line 3, "a contact housing" has been changed to --the contact housing--

Claim 19, line 7, "the contact tube length" has been changed to -- a length of the contact tube --;

lines 8 and 9, "the contact tube circumference" has been changed to -- a circumference of the contact tube --;

line 19, "chamber, the diameter of which" has been changed to -- chamber with a diameter that --;

Claim 20, line 8, "the contact tube length" has been changed to -- a length of the contact tube --;

line 9, "the contact tube circumference" has been changed to -- a circumference of the contact tube --;

Claims 23-25 have been canceled.

Allowable Subject Matter

4. Claims 1-22 are allowed.

5. The following is an examiner's statement of reasons for allowance:

The claims 1-22 are allowable over the prior art of record for at least the reason that the prior art fails to teach or suggest a spring arm projecting radially outwardly in a first circumferential region adjacent to the contact tube main part and having a cylindrical free-end standing circumferential end region, as set forth in claimed combination.

6. Any comments considered necessary by applicant must be submitted no later than the payment of the issue fee and, to avoid processing delays, should preferably accompany the issue fee. Such submissions should be clearly labeled "Comments on Statement of Reasons for Allowance."

7. Any inquiry concerning this communication or earlier communications from the examiner should be directed to Thanh-Tam T. Le whose telephone number is 571-272-2094. The examiner can normally be reached on 7:30-5:00.

8. If attempts to reach the examiner by telephone are unsuccessful, the examiner's supervisor, TC Patel can be reached on 571-272-2098. The fax phone number for the organization where this application or proceeding is assigned is 703-872-9306.

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9. Information regarding the status of an application may be obtained from the Patent Application Information Retrieval (PAIR) system. Status information for published applications may be obtained from either Private PAIR or Public PAIR. Status information for unpublished applications is available through Private PAIR only. For more information about the PAIR system, see <http://pair-direct.uspto.gov>. Should you have questions on access to the Private PAIR system, contact the Electronic Business Center (EBC) at 866-217-9197 (toll-free).

TL.
9/30/04.



T. Le